

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 to 26 (Cancelled)

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): A portable holder for holding two cylinders, said holder comprising:

- a frame having an open top portion and a base portion forming two compartments, each compartment for holding a cylinder inserted into said compartments through said open top portion of said frame;

- a grasping portion connectable to said frame in between said open top portion of said compartments, rotatable between an open position and closed position;

- a shaft connected to said grasping portion extending between said two compartments through said frame to said base portion of said frame;

- a locking mechanism connected to said shaft located in said base portion for engaging a receiving element connected to an external rack; and

- wherein when said grasping portion is in the open position, cylinders can be inserted or removed from said compartments and said locking mechanism is disengaged, and when said grasping portion is in the closed position, cylinders in said compartments are secured within said holder by said grasping portion and said locking mechanism is engaged.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The portable holder of claim 27, wherein the rotation of said grasping portion is mechanically restricted to resting either in said open position or in said closed position.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The portable holder of claim 27, wherein a top of said grasping portion, when in the closed position, does not extend above a valve assembly at the top of the cylinders when the cylinders are in said compartments.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The portable holder of claim 27, wherein a cupping portion is located on said base portion in each compartment, said cupping portion shaped to receive a cylinder base.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The portable holder of claim 27, wherein said locking mechanism can engage said receiving element affixed to the rack for securing said portable holder to the rack.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The portable holder of claim 31, wherein when said grasping portion is in the closed position, said locking mechanism engages with the receiving element to affix said portable holder to the rack and when said grasping portion is in the open position said locking mechanism disengages the receiving element to release said portable holder from the rack.

Claim 33 (Cancelled)